

March 31, 1959

Dr. Olavi Makela  
Institutum Sero-Bacteriologicum  
Universitatis  
Helsinki - Helsingfors  
Suomi, Finland

Dear Dr. Makela:

Thank you for your letter of March 11th. I am happy to hear of your success in obtaining a fellowship and look forward to meeting you here in September. I understand that Dr. Saxine is in touch with you about housing and similar conditions here.

I was interested to read your manuscript and its discussion of the relationship between lectin and glycosidase. The data you suggest make my proposal less plausible although perhaps a more extensive range of potential substrates should be tested. I am not sure how widely glycosidases have been tested for their ability to combine with, that is be inhibited by, related substrates. In any case you should know that the  $\beta$ -galactosidase of *Escherichia coli* act perfectly well on the homomorphous  $\alpha$ -L-arabinosides. We can, of course, discuss these questions in more detail upon your arrival.

At line 6, paragraph 3, page 3 of your manuscript you write "glycosides" where, I am sure, you must mean glycosidases. I hope that Dr. Engraber is planning to publish his findings with some care so they can be referred to more tangibly than as "personal communication."

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics